

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown below. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An automatic document feeder comprising:  
a document tray on which a plurality of documents can be placed;  
a separating section configured to separate the documents placed on the document tray one by one;

a feeding section configured to feed the document separated by the separating section to a document reading position;

an input section inputting information on the material of the document;

[[and]]

a sensor section provided between the separating section and the document reading position and configured to detect passage of a document separated by the separating section; and

a separation control section controlling timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in the separating section based on an output from the sensor section, wherein the separation control section controls the separating section so that the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is predetermined information is later than the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information.

21. (Currently Amended) An automatic document feeder according to

Claim 20, wherein the input section inputs information on whether or not the document is a recording [[paper]] sheet had been recorded in color.

22. (Canceled) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 21, wherein the separation control section delays the timing of starting a separating operation when the information indicating that the document is color-recorded paper is inputted more than that for normal paper documents.

23. (Canceled) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 22, further comprising a sensor disposed between the separating section and the feeding section and configured to detect the presence of a document, wherein the separation control section switches between a first separation mode in which the separation of the following document is started after the trailing edge of the document has been detected by the sensor, and a second separation mode in which the separation of the following document is started before the trailing edge of the documents is detected by the sensor, based on the information on the kind of document.

24. (Previously Presented) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the input section inputs information set by a console section of a connected imaging device or information set by a console section of the document feeder.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An automatic document feeder connected to an imaging device comprising:

a document tray on which a plurality of documents can be placed;

a separating section configured to separate the documents placed on the document tray one by one;

a feeding section configured to feed the document separated by the

separating section to a document reading position;

a sensor section provided between the separating section and the document reading position and configured to detect passage of a document separated by the separating section;

a determining section determining whether the recording mode of the imaging device is a color recording mode or a monochrome recording mode; and

a separation control section controlling timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in the separating section based on an output from the sensor section,

wherein the separation control section controls the separating section so that the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the recording mode of the imaging device is the color recording mode is later than the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the recording mode of the imaging device is the monochrome recording mode [[the determination of the determining section]].

27-33. (Canceled)

34. (New) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the sensor section includes a first sensor and a second sensor provided downstream of the first sensor, and wherein the separation control section controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the first sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information, and controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the second sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is the predetermined information.

35. (New) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the section inputting information indicating whether or not a surface of a

document is slippery.

36. (New) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 26, wherein the sensor section includes a first sensor and a second sensor provided downstream of the first sensor, and wherein the separation control section controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the first sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information, and controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the second sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is the predetermined information.

37. (New) An automatic document feeder according to Claim 26, wherein the section input information indicating whether a surface of a document is slippery or not.